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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/565,641	08/11/2006	Yoshitaka Nakamura	041094-5030	2316
9629 7590 08/16/2007 MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004			EXAMINER NGUYEN, VINCENT Q	
			ART UNIT 2858	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 08/16/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/565,641

Applicant(s)

NAKAMURA, YOSHITAKA

Examiner

Vincent Q. Nguyen

Art Unit

2858

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 January 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/11/06, 1/24/06</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it's over 150 words in length, not in a single paragraph and contains legal phraseology (e.g. comprises, line 1 second para.). Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to because box No. 13 in Figures 1 and 5-8 should be labeled -- Input Board --. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any

amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4, 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson (4,839,581) in view of Young et al. (4,386,315).

With respect to claims 1-4 8, Peterson discloses a non-contact sensor comprising a container including a container main body (A) (Figures 1, 2) having an opening portion at one side and an insulative lid member (The lid member is where

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element 12 is inserted) that hermetically seals said opening portion of said container main body (The lid is hermetically sealed, accordingly, it reads on element A), and a voltage sensor (14) disposed in said container in the way in which a lid member side is opposed to an electrically charged portion of an overhead wire line (12), being insulated from the earth, and detecting a voltage that is induced in a plate electrode due to a spatial charge between said electrically charged portion and the plate electrode within said container (A).

Peterson does not disclose said lid member is a water-repellent resin.

Young discloses a system similar to that of Peterson and further discloses sealed member is a water repellent resin for the purpose of improving the detector to overcome the effect of humidity (Young et al.'s col. 3 lines 36-47)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the member, which is water repellent resin as taught by Young et al. into the system of Peterson because sealing housing with water repellent resin improve the detector to overcome the effect of humidity (Young et al.'s col. 3 lines 36-47).

6. Claims 5/(1-4), 6, 7, 9, 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Peterson (4,839,581) in view of Young et al. (4,386,315), as applied to claims 1-5 above and further in view of Kukimoto et al. (5,915,150)

With respect to claims 5/(1-4), 9, Peterson and Young et al. discloses every subject matter recited in the claim except for said water-repellent resin is silicone resin.

Kukimoto et al. discloses a potential detector for detecting electric field on the photosensitive member and further discloses fluorine and silicon resins to prevent the toner soiling (Kukimoto et al. col. 28 lines 4-10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the water repellent resin is silicon resin as taught by Kukimoto et al. into the system of Peterson and Young et al. because silicon resin is one of typical materials to prevent soiling (Kukimoto et al.'s col. 28 lines 4-37).

With respect to claim 6, Peterson discloses lid member (Portion of A where element 12 is inserted) "is designed in the way" in which its peripheral edge is outwardly extended from a joined portion thereof to said container main body (Figures 1-2).

With respect to claim 7, 10, Peterson discloses said lid member includes one protruding rib (Figures 1-2) (The or reads on alternative exclusive embodiments; the and/or is read as or, thus alternatively read on Peterson).

Prior Art

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Patent No. 4,636,732 (Willis) discloses an apparatus for measuring electrical potential in cell close to a sample electrode.

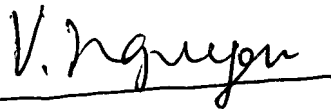
Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vincent Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-2234. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (571) 272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



August 9, 2007

Vincent Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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